

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 24, 2000 LB 213, 920, 929, 1085, 1135, 1197, 1253, 1352
1369, 1379, 1379A, 1427, 1427A, 1436, 1436A

CLERK: 38 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the Select File amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is agreed to. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Mr. President, I move the advancement of LB 1253 to E & R for engrossing.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The question is the advancement of LB 1253. Those in favor say aye. Those opposed nay. The bill is advanced. Members, while the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LB 1369, LB 1379, LB 1379A, LB 1427, LB 1427A, LB 213, LB 929, LB 1085, LB 1135, LB 1197, LB 1436, LB 1436A. Mr. Clerk, next item.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 1352, Senator Brashear would move to return it for a specific amendment, AM3064. (Legislative Journal page 1285.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Brashear, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. President, members of the body, this amendment would add what was LB 920 to LB 1352. The amendment would simply outright repeal Nebraska Revised Statute 68-1047 relating to trusts commonly referred to as Medicaid trusts. Medicaid trusts are employed by individuals to dispose of assets in order to qualify for needs-based benefits, such as Medicaid. Concerned with abuses in the area and in the use of such trusts, our Legislature in 1993 adopted the statute I referenced in order to control them. It specifically required that individuals employ a trust that results in eligibility for public assistance. That trust had to be reviewed by a county court. Addressing those same concerns, however, the United States Congress, that same year, adopted federal standards which preempt our state standards. Nevertheless, our statute remains in force. A number of public agencies are still requiring the county court approval. It's a duplicative, repetitive act with, I respectfully suggest, no purpose. We can economize in terms of money for those who are...who need this, need to place